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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/747,967	12/27/2000	Tsutomu Uematsu	122.1429/CJG	3208
21171	7590	02/17/2004	EXAMINER	
STAAS & HALSEY LLP SUITE 700 1201 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W. WASHINGTON, DC 20005			FUREMAN, JARED	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2876	

DATE MAILED: 02/17/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.		Applicant(s)	
	09/747,967		UEMATSU ET AL.	
	Examiner		Art Unit	
	Jared J. Fureman		2876	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 December 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 and 6-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 4 and 5 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 18 December 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Receipt is acknowledged of the RCE, amendment, and replacement drawing sheet, filed on 12/18/2004, which have been entered in the file. Claims 1-11 are pending.

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 12/18/2004 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-3 and 6-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Uchida et al (US 4,890,824, previously cited) in view of Schupp (DE 37 16781 A1), Martin et al (US 5,508,500, previously cited) and Owens et al (US 6,371,368 B1, previously cited).

Uchida et al teaches a depositing machine having a deposit operation panel (panel 1A) located one side of the machine, inside the machine, a cash storage unit

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(received-bill box 25), the machine comprising: a cashing operation panel (panel 1B) located at another side of the machine different from the side at which the deposit operation panel is located; and a cashing controller (an operating section, not shown, see column 3 lines 13-21), a second cash storage (circulating-bill pooling means 22) unit storing a predetermined amount of cash for a cashing service, a cash temporary holder (17B) removing and temporarily holding a cashed amount input from the cashing operation panel from the second cash storage unit, a cashing processor (pooling wheel 15B and associated pulleys/belts for conveying cash to the dispensing port 4B) dispensing cash from the cash temporary holder, the cashing controller, the second cash storage unit, the cash temporary holder, and the cashing processor being located inside the machine; a cash conveyor (bill receiving route 19, bill dispensing route 27 and associated components) conveying cash to and from the first cash storage unit and the second cash storage unit, the first cash storage unit and the second cash storage unit being separated from the cash conveyor (see figure 1); a cash apportioner (fork 20) located before the cash storage unit to apportion deposited cash between the cash storage unit and the second cash storage unit (the fork directs 10,000 yen bills to the second cash storage unit 22 and other bills to the cash storage unit 25), a part of the deposited cash being used to resupply the cash in the second cash storage unit (the 10,000 yen bills are used to resupply the second cash storage unit 22); wherein the cashing operation panel (1B) is located at a side opposite the side at which the deposit operation panel (1A) is located; the deposit operation panel being used to enter data to deposit cash, the cashing operation panel being used to enter data to withdraw cash,

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the apportioning unit allocating the deposited cash between the cash storage unit and the second cash storage unit to maintain a predetermined amount of cash in the second cash storage unit (Uchida et al only stores 10,000 yen bills in the second cash storage unit 22, all other deposited bills are stored in the cash storage unit 25, thus, the cash is apportioned to maintain 10,000 yen bills (a predetermined amount) in the second cash storage unit) (see column 4 lines 3-16 of Uchida et al) (see figures 1, 2, column 1 lines 6-13, 30-56, column 3 lines 11-46, column 3 line 49 - column 6 line 2).

Uchida et al fails to specifically teach a bill cassette and a coin cassette, belonging to the first cash storage unit, that are respectively locked inside the machine and remain locked when the cash logistics company retrieves same from the machine.

Schupp teaches a banknote and coin cassette including a locking means such that the cassette is effectively locked inside a machine and remains locked when retrieved from the machine (see the translation of the abstract).

In view of Schupp's teachings, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include, with the system as taught by Uchida et al, a bill cassette and a coin cassette, belonging to the first cash storage unit, that are respectively locked inside the machine and remain locked when the cash logistics company retrieves same from the machine, in order to prevent unauthorized access to the cassette even after removal.

Uchida et al as modified by Schupp fails to specifically teach a store sales proceed depositing machine, an external communications unit to notify a cash logistics company of deposit data through a public line, the external communications unit

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communicating with a financial institution, the cashing controller performing processing to verify a person performing the cashing operation, determining whether to authorize cashing by confirming a balance in a savings account of the person, dispensing cash to be reimbursed from the savings account when authorizing cashing, and providing cashing data to the financial institution and to the cash logistics company; the external communications unit notifies the cash logistics company of the deposit data and an amount of cash apportioned by the cash apportioner to the second cash storage unit for use by the cash logistics company maintain consistency between an the amount of sales proceeds deposited and an amount of cash retrieved by the cash logistics company; the cashing operation panel having an ID card insertion slot; the cashing controller performing processing to verify an ID card input from the cashing operation panel.

Martin et al teaches a store sales proceed depositing machine (10), the machine including an external communications unit (modem 45) to notify a cash logistics company (management system 54) of deposit data through a public line (telephone line), the external communications unit communicating with a financial institution (EFT 50a-50n), a cashing controller (CPU 36) performing processing to verify a person performing the cashing operation, determining whether to authorize cashing by confirming a balance in a savings account (a cash account) of the person, dispensing cash to be reimbursed from savings account when authorizing cashing, and providing cashing data to the financial institution and to the cash logistics company (the cashing data travels through the management system 54 (cash logistics company) and network

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switch 52 to the EFT 50a-50n (the financial institution), see figure 3 and column 3 line 58 - column 4 line 42); the external communications unit notifies the cash logistics company of the deposit data and an amount of cash deposited for use by the cash logistics company to maintain consistency between an amount of sales proceeds deposited and an amount of cash retrieved by the cash logistics company (the management computer system 54 monitors communications to log transactions and authorizations, control routing, and provide management reports); a cashing operation panel (32) having an ID card insertion slot (part of card reader 42); the cashing controller performing processing to verify an ID card input from the cashing operation panel (see figures 1-4, column 1 lines 10-39, column 2 lines 20-60, column 3 line 58 - column 4 line 42, column 5 line 28 - column 6 line 10).

In view of Martin et al's teachings, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include, with the system as taught by Uchida et al as modified by Schupp, a store sales proceed depositing machine, an external communications unit to notify a cash logistics company of deposit data through a public line, the external communications unit communicating with a financial institution, the cashing controller performing processing to verify a person performing the cashing operation, determining whether to authorize cashing by confirming a balance in a savings account of the person, dispensing cash to be reimbursed from the savings account when authorizing cashing, and providing cashing data to the financial institution and to the cash logistics company; the external communications unit notifies the cash logistics company of the deposit data and an amount of cash apportioned by the cash

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apportioner to the second cash storage unit for use by the cash logistics company maintain consistency between an the amount of sales proceeds deposited and an amount of cash retrieved by the cash logistics company; the cashing operation panel having an ID card insertion slot; the cashing controller performing processing to verify an ID card input from the cashing operation panel, in order to provide the functions of an ATM without all the associated cost of a conventional ATM (see column 2 lines 13-14 and column 5 lines 18-37 of Martin et al).

Uchida et al as modified by Schupp and Martin et al fails to specifically teach the cashing processor issuing a receipt; wherein the deposit operation panel and the cashing operation panel of the machine are separated by a wall, the deposit operation panel is accessible only to a employee of the store, the cashing operation panel being accessible to a store customer/the general public; the cashing operation panel being provided with a receipt issuing slot.

Owens et al teaches a cash depositing/dispensing machine (10) which issues (via receipt opening 26) a receipt for transactions conducted at the machine; wherein a deposit side (the side including note inlet opening 268) and the dispensing side (the side including note outlet opening 266) of the machine are separated by a wall (not shown), the deposit side is made accessible only to a employee of the store, and the dispensing side is made usable by a store customer/the general public; the dispensing side being provided with a receipt issuing slot (26) (see figures 1, 22, column 3 lines 50-54, column 4 lines 21-26, column 4 line 63 - column 5 lines 13, column 6 lines 34-36,

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column 6 line 50 - column 7 line 17, column 7 lines 59-63, and column 24 line 44 - column 25 line 11).

In view of Owens et al's teachings, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include, with the system as taught by Uchida et al as modified by Schupp and Martin et al, the cashing processor issuing a receipt; wherein the deposit operation panel and the cashing operation panel of the machine are separated by a wall, the deposit operation panel is accessible only to a employee of the store, the cashing operation panel being accessible to a store customer/the general public; the cashing operation panel being provided with a receipt issuing slot, in order to allow both depositing and dispensing notes at the same time (see column 24 line 60 - column 25 line 9 of Owens et al).

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 4 and 5 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

5. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: The prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, fails to teach or fairly suggest: a store sales proceed depositing machine wherein the cash apportioner changes a ratio of apportionment of the deposited cash with the balance of cash for the cashing service in the second cash storage unit being the predetermined amount, in combination with the other claimed limitations as set forth in the claims.

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Uchida et al only stores 10,000 yen bills in the second cash storage unit 22, all other deposited bills are stored in the cash storage unit 25 (see column 4 lines 3-16 of Uchida et al). Thus, while the ratio of apportionment will change depending on the number of 10,000 yen bills as compared to bills of other denominations, the machine does not change the ratio relative to a predetermined balance in the second cash storage unit (that is, all 10,000 yen bills are fed to the bill-pooling means 22 regardless of the amount presently stored therein or the amount stored in the storage unit 25).

In the systems as taught by Martin et al and Owens et al all the deposited cash is available for dispensing, there is no apportionment of cash between a storage unit for dispensing cash and a storage unit for simply storing cash.

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-3 and 6-11 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection. As discussed above, Schupp teaches a locking coin and banknote cassette that remains locked after removal from a machine.

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Junkine et al (US 6,607,124 B1) teaches a store sales proceed depositing machine. Wildgoose et al (US 4,816,652) teaches a locking currency cassette which remains locked after removal from a machine.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jared J. Fureman whose telephone number is (571)

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272-2391. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:00 am - 4:30 PM M-T, and every other Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael G. Lee can be reached on (571) 272-2398. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

January 24, 2004

Jared J. Fureman
Jared J. Fureman
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